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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/616,977	07/11/2003	Renato Caretta	7040.0075.01	2872

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EXAMINER

FISCHER, JUSTIN R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1733

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/616,977

Applicant(s)

CARETTA, RENATO

Examiner

Justin R. Fischer

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 30-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 30-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 120803.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 30-44 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 18-34 of U.S. Patent No.

6,457,504. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably

distinct from each other because one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention would have found it obvious to form the carcass structure of '504 from a first

and second carcass ply (each formed of a pair of strips). In particular, claim 18 of '504

defines a tire having a pair of annular reinforcing structures and at least one carcass

ply, wherein said carcass ply is formed of a first and second series of strip sections- it is

well known that larger tires are formed with increased reinforcement and in such

instances, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have readily

appreciated a carcass construction formed of a first and second carcass ply as defined

in the claimed invention.

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3. Claims 30-44 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 17-31 of U.S. Patent No. 6,763,868. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to form the carcass structure of '868 from a first and second carcass ply (each formed of a pair of strips). In particular, claim 17 of '504 defines a tire having a pair of annular reinforcing structures and at least one carcass ply, wherein said carcass ply is formed of a first and second series of strip sections- it is well known that larger tires are formed with increased reinforcement and in such instances, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have readily appreciated a carcass construction formed of a first and second carcass ply as defined in the claimed invention.

4. Claims 30-44 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,814,119. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to form the carcass structure of '868 from a first and second carcass ply (each formed of a pair of strips). In particular, claim 2 of '119 defines a tire having a pair of annular reinforcing structures (auxiliary resilient stiffening inserts) and at least one carcass ply, wherein said carcass ply is formed of a first and second series of strip sections- it is well known that larger tires are formed with increased reinforcement and in such instances, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

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of the invention would have readily appreciated a carcass construction formed of a first and second carcass ply as defined in the claimed invention.

5. Claims 30-44 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,899,154. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious to form the carcass structure of '868 from a first and second carcass ply (each formed of a pair of strips). In particular, claim 9 of '154 defines a tire having a pair of annular reinforcing structures and at least one carcass ply, wherein said carcass ply is formed of a first and second series of strip sections- it is well known that larger tires are formed with increased reinforcement and in such instances, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have readily appreciated a carcass construction formed of a first and second carcass ply as defined in the claimed invention.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Justin R. Fischer** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1215**. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Blaine Copenheaver can be reached on (571) 272-1156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Justin Fischer

July 11, 2005